

Reelfoot Lake

Sustainability Features

Bald Eagles

Reelfoot Lake is home to one of the largest wintering populations of eagles in the country. Once on the brink of extinction, bald eagles are increasing their numbers in Tennessee. These days, during the peak season (Jan.-Feb.) there can be as many as 200 eagles wintering on Reelfoot.

The most popular way to observe and learn about the eagles on Reelfoot is through the guided tours that are available. The state park has been conducting eagle tours every winter since 1974. All tours are led by state park rangers and naturalists, who provide plenty of eagle information along the way. Every February, the park hosts the Annual Reelfoot Lake Eagle Festival with such activities as live birds of prey shows, arts and crafts, and the aforementioned guided tours.

Old Growth Cypress Forest Tours

Join park naturalists for a beautiful fall canoe float on Reelfoot Lake. Fall brings thousands of migrating birds including American White Pelicans and Bald Eagles. The cypress turns a rusty red and there is no better time to explore this unique natural area. Navigate through thousands of cypress stumps, and if the water

levels are low enough, you can get out and hike and experience a rarely-seen view of Reelfoot Lake.

Did You Know?

Severe earthquakes created Reelfoot Lake, Tennessee's largest natural lake, during the winters of 1811 and 1812.



Park Highlights

- Visited by over half a million people in 2011
- Reelfoot Lake State Park has three hiking trails and an auto tour that circles the lake
- The R.C. Donaldson Memorial Museum features natural and cultural exhibits of the area, audio visual programs, and a cypress boardwalk

